

Advisory Committee on Trauma Meeting
May 28, 2003
Minutes

Attending: Dr. Paul Harrison, Dr. Scott Sellers, Kerry McCue, Connie Meyer, Pam Kemp, Robert Orth, Jack Shearer, Tim Pitts, Lois Towster, Darlene Whitlock, Walt Regehr, Mike Bradford, Kimberla Nutting, Pat Dowlin, Rep Judy Showalter, Sen. David Haley

Absent: Leanne Irsik, Sen. Susan Wagle, and Rep. James Morrison, Roger John, Dr. Dennis Allin, Dr. Craig Concannon

Rosanne Rutkowski called the meeting to order in the absence of Dr. Harrison who called to say he would be delayed.

EMD/Communication Survey:

Lynne Ruhlman Valdivia, RN and Steve Balckwell from Kansas Foundation for Medical Care (KFMC) provided an update on the EMD/communication survey, which they have been contracted to do as part of the federal EMS/Trauma Systems Grant

KFMC started work on the project in February 2003. In discussions with Rosanne R. and David Lake, the draft survey tool was revised to increase clarity in some of the questions. KFMC sent the tool to five Communications Centers around Kansas (Mission, Girard, Wichita, Hays, Great Bend) and received three back within the timeframe needed. As a result, some final changes were made to the survey tool.

The survey is intended to be an inventory and a needs assessment of public safety communications in Kansas. On pages 1 and 2, the survey asks about background, administrative information; this includes contact information, whether or not they provide dispatch services, population and size of service area, types of calls received, staffing, etc. Pages 3 through 6 ask questions regarding emergency dispatch communications; this includes manufacturer and age of communications systems, agencies served, inter-operability issues, 911 capability, etc. Questions on pages 6 and 7 are regarding training/certifications and protocols. This includes use of standard procedures, type of initial dispatcher training, continuing education, and EMD programs.

To develop a mailing list, KFMC started with a large mailing list from the Highway Patrol, and worked with David to identify Communications Centers in Kansas. Initially, the survey mailing list consisted of 122 agencies. Through the pre-notification letter and the survey, KFMC asked these agencies to notify us if they did not provide dispatch services, and to identify the dispatch services in their counties. In the end, we will have a final database of all Communications Centers in Kansas and their contact information.

On April 14, the pre-notification letter was mailed to 122 agencies. On April 21, the first survey was mailed. Reminder postcards were mailed to 93 agencies on April 29. KFMC

uses a tracking system that only allows non-respondents to receive follow up mailings. The second survey was mailed May 12, to 60 agencies, and KFMC completed reminder
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phone calls on May 27 to the remaining 29 non-respondents. When a returned survey is received that is not completely filled out, KFMC calls the agency contact person to obtain further answers. This is helping to ensure the most complete inventory possible. As of May 28, the response rate was 78.6% (103 out of 131 agencies). Respondents represent 85 counties in Kansas. Some counties have multiple Communications Centers. The cut-off date for data entry is scheduled for June 9; data cleaning and analysis will then begin. The final report will show overall results and it will show data stratified by Trauma Council Regions. The final report is due September 15, but survey results should be available by mid to late August.

Trauma/EMS System Federal Grant:

Rosanne reported that application guidance for year 2 of the federal grant that funded the EMD/Communication Survey has been released. This year 2 of the federal grant will require that the state provide a \$1 to \$1 match of federal funds. This past year the federal funds that Kansas received was \$40,000. The deadline for filing this year's grant is June 30th. Year 2 of the grant requires that a database be set up of all hospitals and key contact staff at that hospital.

Meeting Minutes:

Upon Dr. Harrison's arrival minutes from the February meeting were approved.

Trauma Education Update:

Kay Swietek on behalf of the Consortium for Improvement of Trauma Education provided a status report on the education contract.

Advanced Training Life Support (ATLS) Courses: Three ATLS Courses have been approved to date. To date, one ATLS class has been offered in Wichita in which there were 4 eligible participants. Kay reported that there has been difficulty in identifying potential ATLS instructors.

Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC): During the first quarter, there was 3 classes offered which received subsidy: Manhattan w/ 19 rural participants, Topeka w/ 2 rural participants, and Hiawatha w/ total of 4. To date they have received requests for 7 additional classes to be held later in the year.

Pre Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS): No PHTLS courses were offered due to instructor updates. 1 class was approved during the first quarter. All instructors have to be re-certified in PHTLS by June 30, 2003.

The consortium received an additional \$17, 242 as requested to provide for instructor classes for PHTLS and TNCC. There was a question as to whether notification has been

sent out regarding this opportunity for TNCC and PHTLS instructors. A concern was expressed regarding the complexity of the forms required to request reimbursement from
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the consortium. Kay indicated they were aware of the issue and were looking at ways to simplify the process

Board of EMS update:

David Lake provided a legislative update on the bills this legislative session that will have an impact on either the Board or EMS providers. Senate Bill 2068 limits liability to or absolves the donors of responsibility for donated used equipment. There was a question regarding legal liability if a hospital donated equipment to an EMS provider. Senate Bill 132 gives everyone the right to have an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) but the public has to be trained to use it.

The State of Kansas was awarded a federal AED grant in the amount of \$262,050. Of the 49 states, the award to Kansas was the 10th largest. Every agency in Kansas that applied for an AED got at least one for their area through this grant. There were a total of 101 devices placed last year. The Board would like to place another 100 AEDs this year. Applications are due to the board by June 30th. The Board of EMS meets next week.

Secretary of KDHE, Roderick Bremby:

Richard Morrissey introduced the Secretary of KDHE, Roderick Bremby. Secretary Bremby provided a brief overview of the legislative issues affecting KDHE this past session. In particular the Center for Health and Environmental Statistics (CHES) at KDHE will now be a fee funded department rather than state general funds. Secretary Bremby stated that KDHE would be working on its mission and vision statement in the following months. The mission of KDHE is to promote and protect health of Kansans. He stressed that KDHE cannot do this alone but it is a collaborative effort on the part of many organizations. We need to build working partnerships with those around us. Health care costs are growing with 18% of health care expenses due to the Medicare cost. Prevention is needed if we are to curtail those growing expenses.

It was reported that the legislature approved a total of \$144,000 be directed from the trauma fund for other purposes. \$70,000.00 is be redirected from the trauma fund into the state general fund. In addition, there was legislative authorization given to utilize up to \$74,000 of the trauma fund for Hepatitis B vaccination.

NE Regional Trauma Council:

Mark Bradford provided a report on the regional activities for the NE RTC. The annual meeting for the NE was on May 5th. Approximately 50 participants attended which was slightly less than last year. The keynote speaker was Dr. Tom Foley from Iowa who gave a presentation on the Iowa trauma system.

The NE region has a very active executive committee and three active sub-committees.

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A resource/ needs survey comprised of items created by all three sub-committee has been developed. The survey will be mailed to all hospital Directors of Nursing and EMS administrators in the region. The goal for completion of the survey process has been set for the end of June.

The executive committee met on May 5, 2003 prior to the general meeting. Several items of business were discussed including development of a survey and a formal position paper. Budget recommendations were included for report to the ACT.

The NE RTC position paper requests 1 FTE be added to the KFMC contract to assist with regional trauma councils, \$13,500 is requested to support 2 bi-annual meetings, \$50,000 be added to the current trauma education contract and \$50,000 be given directly to the region to support the educational needs they identify through the survey.

NC regional Trauma Council:

Patricia Dowlin reported a May 8th annual meeting was held at the Kansas Highway Patrol Training Facility in Salina. Twenty-three people attended the meeting (31 attended last year). Results of the NC RTC education sub-committee survey were presented. By-laws were adopted and an EMS vacancy was filled on the executive committee. Sub-committee reports were provided.

An education needs survey was mailed in March. The survey was distributed to all hospital directors of nursing and EMS administrators. One hundred percent of the hospitals responded and thirty five percent of the EMS administrators responded for an overall response rate of 63%. The survey will be used to guide future course planning and public education in the region. Pat expressed a concern from one of the hospitals in the NC region that they needed 2 FTEs to enter registry data. Dr. Harrison reported that the standard is 1 FTE for every 750 trauma cases at a level 1 trauma center. Sherry will follow up with the facility to see what might be the issue.

NW RTC Report:

Kim Nutting reported that the NW RTC general Meeting was held on April 11 at Hays Medical Center. Kim reported that initially the two members of the RTC requested Dr. Red Duke for their keynote speaker. Dr. Harrison instead provided an update from the ACT. Two vacant executive committee members were replaced due to resignations. Paul Davis, hospital administrator from Quinter and EMS Director Deb Kaufman of Hoxie were elected to the executive committee. An education survey was sent out the first week of May. The next executive committee meeting will convene on June 18th, 2003 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm at Hays Medical Center.

SC RTC Report:

Tim Pitts reported the annual meeting of the SC RTC is scheduled June 4, 2003 from 9:30 to 12:00 at the Hyatt Regency Wichita. Results of the SCKTR education sub-committee survey will be presented. Bylaws will be adopted and a health department vacancy will be elected to the executive committee. Sub-committee reports will be provided.

An education needs survey was mailed in March and a follow-up mailing was sent in April to hospital nursing directors and EMS administrators. The survey will be used to guide future course planning in the region. There was an overall survey response rate of 76%. Ninety-Seven % of the hospitals and 65% of the pre-hospital organizations responded. Bypass and transfer protocols will be obtained from all organizations. All protocols will be reviewed and a white paper will be developed to inform the region of RTC recommendations.

The committee discussed an interest in reviewing the NE position paper as the SC RTC executive committee felt all the regions should remain cohesive and join together on issues that effect all regions.

The next executive meeting of the SC RTC will be held right after the Annual Meeting of the SC RTC on June 4 from 12:00 to 1:30pm. The SC RTC expressed their gratitude to Kendra for all her help.

SE RTC Report:

Walt Regehr provided an updated on the activities of the SE RTC. Their annual meeting was held in February in Independence at Mercy Hospital. Thirty members and other interested parties attended. Dr. WC Dandridge from St. John's Medical Center in Joplin, Missouri presented on the Missouri Trauma Registry and benefits of trauma programs.

The Prevention/Education Sub- Committee of the SE RTC completed development of a survey that was disseminated at the general meeting February 20. A follow up survey is underway to increase the rate of return. The survey will provide the region with information regarding training and education needs.

A TNCC class was held in April at the Labette County Medical Center. Currently, the sub-committee has been contacting physicians in the region to determine interest in providing an ATLS class this fall in the SE.

The next executive committee meeting is scheduled on July 10 from 2:00 to 3:30 at the Labette County Medical Center

SW RTC Report:

Jack Shearer reported the SW annual meeting was held in March. Attendance from last year was down with 26 attendees. EMS providers in the SW primarily have BTLS training, which is not supported currently in the education contract. With the help of the SW RTC education and communication sub-committees, a plan to train PHTLS instructors and providers in the region has been developed. To date, 2 PHTLS instructors have been trained and three PHTLS provider courses have been scheduled. The goal is to have at least one PHTLS instructors in every county in the region. A reciprocal training arrangement has been established between the BTLS instructors and PHTLS instructors to train providers in the SW region.

Education sub-committee of the SW RTC is getting ready to mail out a survey to hospital directors of nursing and EMS administrators in the SW region. This will assist in identifying the type of trauma training needed in the SW area.

A letter to General Members from the Chairperson was mailed on April 30. The Executive committee met again on May 20th. Plans are for Swedish hospital from Denver to address the executive committee at the next RTC meeting.

EMSC Grant / Trauma Conference:

Lori Haskett, Director, KDHE Injury Program reported that KDHE in collaboration with the Board of EMS was the recipient for the EMSC grant. One area of emphasis in the grant is to support training for child safety seat instructors. The other area of emphasis especially as it relates to the ACT is grant funds have been designated to help support a Pediatric/trauma conference. Several members of the ACT have been involved in the planning of the conference including David Lake, Darlene Whitlock, Rosanne Rutkowski, Kendra Tinsley and Dr. Dennis Allin. It is planned that CME, CNE, EMS and RT credit will be provided. Two pre-conferences sessions are being planned for PALS and child safety seat instructors.

Rosanne reported that the regions have expressed an interest to her for a meeting with other executive council members so they could network with other regions on areas of mutual interest. A member from each of the RTCs has been identified to serve on a planning committee to put together an agenda for the meeting. The date for the EMSC/trauma conference is October 9 & 10 with the regional meeting and pre conference held on October 8, 2003.

The Hyatt in Wichita has been selected as the conference location.

Trauma Registry update:

Discussion regarding the position paper that was distributed in the ACT mailing was deferred to the August meeting as representatives of the Kansas Hospital Association were absent due to their planning retreat.

Greg Crawford provided an update on the state trauma registry. To date, 18 hospitals have downloaded data to the central state registry. Sherry is in the process of evaluating the data reported. There have been 73 hospitals that have been trained in the software and are collecting data or the process thereof.

Sherry did an interest and readiness survey of the remaining 50 hospitals who have not been trained in use of the software. Results of the survey were distributed to the group. There are 11 hospitals that would like further information before indicating their readiness to collect data. She reported that there were an additional 38 hospitals that indicated they would participate in the October software training. See attached survey report.

David Lake asked if any trends could be identified in the data downloaded to the state especially as it relates to the pre-hospital data points. There is concern that more education is needed among pre-hospital providers regarding the Glasgow Coma Scale.

Sherry will need to report back to the individual hospitals regarding the quality of the data reporting.

Trauma Registry Sub-Committee:

The Kansas Trauma Registry Sub-Committee meet in March to discuss data issues that have been identified either through development of the registry or by individual users. There were 9 data points that were discussed by the committee. Please see attached report. Rosanne asked that the ACT make a recommendation to adopt the changes. Dr. Harrison asked for a motion on the sub-committee recommendations. Connie Meyer made the motion to accept the recommendations as written and Tim Pitts seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 3pm. The next meeting is scheduled for August 27th.